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## **DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

### **Minutes of the Regular Detroit Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, May 22, 2008**

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, May 22, 2008, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### **Board Members Present**

Erminia Ramirez  
Jim Holley **(ABS)**  
Mohamed Okdie  
Willie Hampton **(ABS)**  
Ronald L. Griffin

##### **Department Personnel Present**

AC Ralph Godbee  
DC Claudia Barden-Jackson  
Cmdr. Lewis Bray  
Cmdr. Brian Stair  
Cmdr. Jan Johnson  
Cmdr. Gail Wilson-Turner  
Lt. Darwin Roche  
Lt. Robin Kirkwood-Farrar  
Sgt. Dwight Snodgrass  
PO Kevin Brathwaite  
PO Christopher Salisbury  
Atty. Grant Ha

##### **Board Staff Present**

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director  
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Inv. (In office)  
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director  
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator  
Leslie J. Griffin, Community Affairs Coordinator  
P.O. Kent Cooper

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Edward Moore  
Edith Payne  
Carmen Russell

**RECORDERS**

Terence Bell

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairperson Ramirez** called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:10 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- **Thursday, May 22, 2008**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Griffin** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **Thursday, May 1, 2008**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Griffin** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

- **Thursday, May 8, 2008**

**MOTION:** Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Minutes.

**SECOND:** Comm. Griffin seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

- **Thursday, May 15, 2008**

**MOTION:** Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Minutes.

**SECOND:** Comm. Griffin seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

#### **4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT**

##### **1. CHAIRPERSON**

##### **2. SECRETARY REPORT**

**Exec Dir. Goss** stated a closed-door session has been requested for PO Gordon Davis, badge 530, assigned to Northeastern District. The closed session has been postponed until next week.

#### **SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY OF POLICE OFFICER JASON PUGH, BADGE 385, ASSIGNED TO TRAINING**

On May 7, 2008, Internal Affairs received information from Detective Lieutenant Richard Hayward, badge 136, of the Michigan State Police, Western Wayne Auto Theft Task Force, regarding an allegation of Insurance Fraud against Police Officer Jason Pugh, badge 385, assigned to Training. Lieutenant Hayward reported that on May 5, 2008, the Task Force received information from the Help Eliminate Auto Theft (HEAT) tip line that a tow truck driver had left a vehicle in the employee parking lot of the towing company and the vehicle had been sitting there for months. The information also included the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) 1J4GR48K56C309403. Lieutenant Hayward conducted a query via the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) and discovered that the vehicle was reported stolen to the Detroit Police Department on January 4, 2008, OCA #0801040123 and was registered to Officer Pugh.

Lieutenant Hayward ascertained from Progressive Insurance Company that on January 31, 2008, they paid a claim totaling \$19,000.00 to the finance company regarding Officer Pugh's vehicle.

On May 6, 2008, a green 2006 Jeep Cherokee, bearing Michigan license plate 6HQD62, was recovered by the Western Wayne Auto Theft Task Force from the parking lot of the towing company. It should be noted that the towing company had no record of the vehicle being towed, while at the location, Lieutenant Hayward spoke with the owner of the towing company and he assisted in identifying the tow-truck driver (hereinafter "driver"). The owner contacted the driver and advised him to contact Detective Mark Mitchell, of the Michigan State Police, Western Wayne Auto Theft Task Force.

On May 7, 2008, the driver contacted Detective Mitchell and he agreed to be interviewed at 12:00 P.M., at the Dickerson Detention Facility. The driver was advised of his constitutional rights (Miranda) and questioned regarding the incident. The driver stated that Officer Pugh approached him, around Thanksgiving of 2007, and advised him that he was unable to make his car payments and inquired if he knew anyone who could help him get rid of his vehicle. He stated that Officer Pugh provided him the keys and the vehicle, and the driver drove the vehicle and parked it at the towing company.

The driver stated that Officer Pugh offered to pay him \$1,000.00 for arranging to have the vehicle taken. The driver also advised Lieutenant Hayward that, on May 6, 2008, he advised Officer Pugh that Detective Mitchell had contacted him regarding the vehicle. The driver stated that Officer Pugh told him that they needed to meet face to face. When Officer Pugh arrived at his home to discuss their story, he was in full uniform and driving a marked scout car. Officer Pugh advised the driver that he could not stay long because he had two rookie officers in the vehicle. Officer Pugh advised the driver to claim that he towed the vehicle and had not recovered it in a timely fashion. Officer Pugh further advised the driver that as long as he stuck to his story everything would be fine.

On May 9, 2008, Lieutenant Walton obtained a copy of Officer Pugh's Activity Log for May 6, 2008, which documented that he worked 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., with Probationary Police Officers Dejiu Blackwell, badge 2702 and Donna Baugh-Richardson, badge 2708, both assigned to the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy.

On this same date, Officer Pugh was interviewed by Detective Mitchell, and he stated that his vehicle was stolen from his father's home. Officer Pugh denied any involvement in the theft of his vehicle.

On May 13, 2008, Officers Blackwell and Baugh-Richardson were interviewed by Lieutenant Hayward and Detective Mitchell at the office of Internal Affairs. The officers confirmed that Officer Pugh had directed them to drive to the driver's home, which was outside the City of Detroit limits, and that Officer Pugh had spoken with the driver for approximately fifteen minutes. It should be noted that the officers remained in the scout car and did not know the nature of the conversation between Officer Pugh and the driver.

On this same date, Officer Pugh was suspended at the office of Internal Affairs by Sergeant Gayle Smith, badge S-1120, assigned to Training.

On May 15, 2008, Lieutenant Hayward advised Lieutenant Walton that an Investigator's Report was to be submitted to Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney (APA) Robert Donaldson naming Officer Pugh as the defendant on May 16, 2008.

Based upon the above facts and circumstances, it is recommended that Officer Pugh be charged with, but not limited to, the following violation of the department Rules and Regulations:

**CHARGE: CONDUCT UNBECOMING AN OFFICER, CONTRARY TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS; THIS BEING IN VIOLATION OF THE 2003 DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT MANUAL SERIES 100, DIRECTIVE 102.3 – 7.9, CONDUCT UNPROFESSIONAL, COMMAND 1.**

Due to the seriousness of the conduct, I am requesting your concurrence with the suspension of Police Officer Jason Pugh without pay, effective May 22, 2008.

**Exec Dir Goss** stated there are no arguments on this case because it is a felony.

Unless **contravened** by this Board the suspension without pay shall stand.

**There were no contraventions.**

**SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY OF POLICE OFFICER KEVIN CHAMBERS,  
BADGE 85, ASSIGNED TO TACTICAL MOBILE**

On May 16, 2008, the Internal Affairs Alert Team received notification to respond to the Northwestern District regarding the arrest of Police Officer Kevin Chambers, badge 85, assigned to Tactical Mobile for fleeing and eluding, carrying a concealed weapon and operating while impaired.

It should be noted that Officer Chambers has been suspended without pay since November 16, 2006 on Force Investigation Case #06-091 for an off duty incident where he fired shots.

A review of the Arrest Report prepared by Police Officers Daniel Sitarski, badge 2098, and Stanley Kropik, badge 775, both assigned to the Northwestern District, revealed that at approximately 5:50 A.M., on May 16, 2008, while on routine patrol in the area of Evergreen and Grand River, they observed a person, later identified as Officer Chambers, operating a Harley Davidson Motorcycle at a high rate of speed and disregarding a red light. The officers attempted to perform a traffic stop, but Officer Chambers sped off exceeding speeds of 120mph. The officers activated their overhead lights and siren and pursued Officer Chambers. Officer Chambers disregarded two more traffic signals and the chase was terminated by Sergeant Harold Ashford; badge S-526, assigned to the Northwestern District. The officers continued on Grand River and observed the motorcycle on the ground at Berg and Grand River and Officer Chambers attempting to pick it up. The officers ordered Officer Chambers to the ground and he was placed in handcuffs. The officers conducted a pat down for offensive weapons and found that Officer Chambers was in possession of brass knuckles. Additionally, the officers detected the odor of intoxicants on Officer Chambers and he was administered Field Sobriety Tests at the scene, which he failed.

Once at the Northwestern District, Officer Chambers was administered a Breathalyzer Test by Police Officer Darryl Bennett, badge 4320, assigned to the Northwestern District, and the result was a blood alcohol content of .08.

Officer Chambers was advised of his constitutional rights (Miranda) and he refused to make a statement.

On this same date, an Investigator's Report was presented to Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney (APA) Robert Donaldson naming Officer Chambers as the defendant. APA Donaldson advised Internal Affairs that the warrant would be adjourned to May 19, 2008.

On May 19, 2008, APA Thomas Dawson recommended charging Officer Chamber with one (1) count of Fleeing and Eluding – Third Degree, one (1) count of Possession of a Dangerous Weapon, one (1) count of Operating While Impaired and one (1) count of Reckless Driving. On this same date, Magistrate Millicent Sherman, of the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court signed felony warrant #08 060420 for the recommended charges.

Based upon the above facts and circumstances, it is recommended that Officer Chambers be charged with, but not limited to, the following violation of the department Rules and Regulations:

**CHARGE: CONDUCT UNBECOMING AN OFFICER, CONTRARY TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS; THIS BEING IN VIOLATION OF THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT MANUAL SERIES 100, DIRECTIVE 102.3 – 7.9, CONDUCT UNPROFESSIONAL, COMMAND 1.**

Due to the seriousness of the conduct, I am requesting your concurrence with the suspension of Police Officer Kevin Chambers without pay, effective May 22, 2008.

**Exec Dir Goss** stated there are no arguments on this case because it is a felony.

Unless **contravened** by this Board the suspension without pay shall stand.

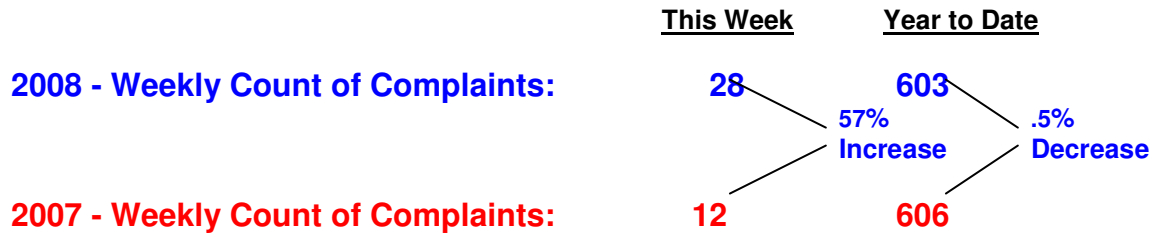
**There were no contraventions.**

### OFFICE CLOSING

The Board of Police Commissioners' Office and the Office of the Chief Investigator will be CLOSED on the following date:

- Monday, May 26, 2008, in observance of Memorial Day.

### CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED



- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of 1,155 active investigations, of which 503 of those are for 2008.

### TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 05/22/08	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
3	CENTRAL		3	1			1				5
2	COMMUNICATIONS									2	2
1	EASTERN				1						1
4	NORTHEASTERN					1	4	1	1		7
2	NORTHWESTERN		2				2				4
1	SOUTHWESTERN						1				1
1	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT						1				1
11	Unknown Command	1	4				5	1	1	3	15
1	VIOLENT CRIMES		1				1				2
2	WESTERN						2	1			3
<b>28</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>41</b>




## 5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

May 22, 2008

Volume 4, Issue 21

# *Detroit Police Department*

## *Report to the Board of Police Commissioners*



**Special Points of Interest:**

- Next meeting:  
Thursday, May 29, 2008  
@ 3:00 P.M.

**Detroit Police Department**  
**1300 Beaubien St.**  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

**“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”**

*The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.*

### **SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

#### **Narcotics/Gang Enforcement**

During the period of May 12, 2008 through May 18, 2008, **Narcotics/Gang Enforcement executed 15 search warrants and 37 street enforcement actions** within the boundaries of the city of Detroit resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:

- 39 Felony arrests
- 105 Misdemeanor arrests
- 5 Juveniles

**Confiscated:**

- 269.80 grams of cocaine, 78.9 grams of heroin, 807.70 grams of marijuana and 219 pills, with a total street value of \$255,360.80
- **\$ 22,413.00** in U.S. Currency
- 12 Handguns

#### **Domestic Violence**

On May 14th, officers of the Northwestern District responded to the 9300 block of Heyden regarding an assault wherein a subject was arrested. As a result of the investigation conducted by Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with two counts of *“Felonious Assault,”* and *“Aggravated Domestic Violence.”*

**Engaging the Community**

**ATTENTION**

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Sub-Stations to make reports.

		<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Narcotics/Gang Enforcement	1			
Domestic Violence	1			
Northeastern District	2			
Northwestern District	2			
Southwestern District	2			
Western District	2			
Eastern District	2			

		2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400
		7737 Kercheval	7 a.m. to 3 p.m.	628-2121
		19810 Grand River	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	935-5322
		13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
		12000 Livernois	24 Hours	237-2555

May 22, 2008

## ***Police / Community Intervention***

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### **Northeastern District**

On May 8th, officers of the Northeastern District stopped a motorist in area of Dequindre and E. Eight Mile relative to a traffic violation. As a result of the officers' investigation, the motorist was arrested and charged with "*Fleeing and Eluding 2nd Degree*," "*Possession of Marijuana*," "*Resisting and Obstructing*," "*Motor Vehicle Advisory*," and "*Habitual 2nd*."



### **Southwestern District**

On May 14th, officers of the Southwestern District were on patrol in the area of Dagoon and W. Vernor, when they observed a carjacking in progress. Due to the officers' quick response, the subject was arrested and subsequently charged with "*Carjacking*," and "*Habitual 3*."



### **Eastern District**

On May 12th, officers of the Eastern District conducted a follow-up investigation into an Armed Robbery/Shooting, which occurred in the 1500 block of E. Eight Mile. Due to the officers' efforts, the subject was located, arrested, and charged with "*Assault with Intent to Commit Murder*," "*Robbery Armed*," and "*Felony Firearm*."

### **Northwestern District**

On May 15th, officers of the Northwestern District responded to the 15000 block of Schaefer on a "Shooting Victim." As a result of the officers' investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "*Assault with Intent to Commit Murder*," "*Assault with Intent to Commit Great Bodily Harm*," "*Felonious Assault*," and "*Felony Firearm*."



### **Western District**

On May 13th, while on patrol in the 1600 block of Richton, officers of the Western District observed a subject discard an assault rifle near a residence. Due to the officers' immediate response and investigation, a weapon was confiscated and the subject was arrested and charged with "*Minor in Possession of a Firearm in Public*."



**AC Godbee** introduced Cmdr. Bray of Incident Response.

**Cmdr. Bray** introduced his staff, and gave a brief overview of the primary functions of the K-9 Unit.

## **6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no standing committee reports.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. GRANT: REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FOROVERTIME FROM THE SOUTHWEST DETROIT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

The crime enforcement strategies that will be implemented to achieve the desired objectives will be based primarily on crime analysis data gathered by Department personnel. The strategies derived will be flexible, agile and fluid to insure that emerging crime trends and patterns are appropriately addressed. The primary methods which will be utilized include increasing visibility and applying direct police enforcement action to specified areas. Personnel assigned to this operation will take enforcement action on illegal narcotic activity and the removal of dangerous weapons and wanted persons identified in those areas. The community component of the plan will address quality of life issues (environmental) and vigorous enforcement of all traffic violations and ordinances such as loiterers, juvenile offenses (curfew violations and Minor Unlawfully in a Public Place (MUIPP)), abandoned vehicles, prostitution, etc. The enforcement of quality of life infractions will contribute to a reduction in shootings and robberies.

The SDBA will serve as the fiduciary and reimburse the Department for all incurred overtime resulting from this initiative. In the event that approval is granted to accept this award, Southwestern District Deputy Chief Claudia Barden-Jackson would serve as the project director. The appropriation number for this grant, which will end on December 31, 2008, is 12676.

I am requesting the Board's permission to accept this funding and seek approval of the Honorable Detroit City Council.

**MOTION:** **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Grant.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**Chairperson Ramirez** asked in what fashion will the department increase visibility.

**DC Barden-Jackson** stated this is to offset their Weed & Seed Grant, which is in Sector 5. They are concerned about the possibility of displacement crime; and are working on strategies to reduce crime in that area.

**Chairperson Ramirez** asked to know the meaning of applying direct police enforcement.

**DC Barden-Jackson** stated it's the old adage of putting cops on the blocks again as they look at the crime patterns, with the hours varying.

**Chairperson Ramirez** stated the Board's Town Hall Meeting will be in the Southwestern District June 12, 2008, at 6:30 pm and it will be great if you can mention this information regarding this area.

**L. Griffin** stated the theme of the Town Hall is Involving Citizens in Conjunction with the Detroit Police Department.

**Chairperson Ramirez** stated it will be held at LA SED Community Center on West Vernor and Green.

**DC Barden-Jackson** stated she will look forward to it.

**2. GRANT: REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT AN INCREASE IN THE  
FISCAL YEAR 2007 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE  
ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG)**

The Department of Justice (DOJ) awarded the Wayne County Sheriff's Office the 2007 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). The Detroit Police Department (Department) and the Wayne County Sheriff's Office have actively operated the J.A.G. Program for the last two years. The Wayne County Sheriff's Office serves as the grant's fiscal agent. The award number is 2007-DJ-BX-0751, and as a result of the award, the Department will receive **\$1,645,502.00, with no cash match.**

The grant is currently in the Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Budget for \$1,300,000.00 (Appropriation # 12349 - Cost Center 372405). Fortunately, for the Department, the award was increased by **\$345,502.00**. With this funding, the Department will purchase mobile data computers, automatic license plate recognition readers, and video cameras for police vehicles. Deputy Chief Leo Powers, of the Technical Services Bureau, will continue to serve as the Project Director.

I am requesting the Board's permission to accept this award increase and will seek approval from the Detroit City Council.

**MOTION:**     **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Grant.

**SECOND:**    **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**        All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**Chairperson Ramirez** asked to know what an automatic license reader is.

**AC Godbee** stated as the camera reads the license plate, it will then be run through the LIEN system to give you information on that vehicle to determine if it is stolen.

**Chairperson Ramirez** asked if the officer has to point it at the vehicle.

**AC Godbee** stated it is affixed to the car.

**Chairperson Ramirez** asked will it be affixed to the new department scout cars.

**AC Godbee** stated no, because it a huge cost that is associated with that, but it will be done to undercover vehicles, UC vehicles and selected vehicles will have it. They currently have a vehicle that is equipped with it and the success rate is tremendous.

### **3. RESOLUTION: LAVERNE SAMUELS**

**MOTION:**     **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Resolution.

**SECOND:**    **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**        All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

Friday, May 30, 2008, @ 3:00 p.m.  
Police Headquarters  
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328-A  
Detroit, MI 48226

**10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

**E. Moore** stated to the Board and the Chief that Councilman Kenyetta sends his prayers for Comm. Holley. He stated he was very impressed with the K-9 presentation. He stated that the Deputy Chief is doing a wonderful job in the Southwestern District.

**Comm. Griffin** stated he supports what Mr. Moore stated about DC Barden-Jackson. He is from the original Southwest Detroit.

**E. Lee-Payne** stated that she has come before this Board on several occasions and would like to give them an update on her complaints. The investigation is ongoing and she hasn't been given an update within the last two weeks. The people that she had identified have finally been contacted. The investigation was not completely investigated.

**Comm. Griffin** asked Ms. Payne what is it that she needs to happen today.

**E. Lee-Payne** stated wants the Board staff to finalize her investigation and address her concerns.

**Chairperson Ramirez** asked Chief Inv. Sheard is there a compliant with OCI.

**Chief Inv. Sheard** stated that there is an ongoing investigation. The witnesses that were provided by Ms. Lee-Payne were interviewed. It does take time to gather the other information.

**AC Godbee** stated she would like for Ms. Lee-Payne to speak with Cmdr. Stair after the meeting.

**Comm. Griffin** stated to Ms. Lee-Payne that it may be helpful if she could meet with Chief Inv. Sheard to get an understanding of the process.

**E. Lee-Payne** stated that she had a conversation with Chief Inv. Sheard and the names and phone numbers were provided the first week of April. She also stated that she received a phone message from Inv. Coleman. She did return the call and she has not heard back from her for an update.

**Chairperson Ramirez** stated to Chief Inv. Sheard that she thinks Comm. Griffin's suggestion is a good idea.

**Comm. Griffin** stated to Ms. Lee-Payne that something needs to happen between her and the Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI). He senses her frustration that something is still missing. He is available if he needs to be in that meeting so that he will know that OCI has explained and did everything it could.

**C. Russell** stated I had given a letter to the Commissioners on April 19, 2008. In the March 27, 2008 meeting, laid off investigators was discussed along with hiring of new investigators for the Office of the Chief Investigators. I was one of those investigators that was laid off and until this date, I have never been called back. I'd like to know the outcome and where we are with that situation.

**Exec Dir Goss** stated that the Board of Police Commission Investigators formed a union. We have agreed in a Merck Hearing that Ms. Russell and another investigator were not represented because Ms. Russell turned in a resignation letter.

**C. Russell** stated I never turned in a resignation letter.

**Chairperson Ramirez** stated we are not going to have open discussion on this subject.

**Comm. Okdie** stated this is not the time and place to have a dialogue back and forth with the Executive Director regarding this matter.

**Chairperson Ramirez** stated there is a process and Atty. Hooks will be more than happy to speak with you on this subject.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**DANTE' L. GOSS**  
Executive Director  
Board of Police Commissioners

**DLG/rb**